

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GW, UR

SUBJ: GERMAN-SOVIET CONSULTATIONS IN BONN

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

SET FORTH BELOW IS THE TEXT OF TALKING POINTS UPON WHICH FRG
PERMREP KRAPF WILL DRAW AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING IN
INFORMING THE ALLIES OF GROMYKO'S SEPTEMBER 15-16 DISCUSSIONS
IN BONN.
BEGIN TEXT

1. THE TALKS HELD BY THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT, THE FEDERAL
CHANCELLOR AND THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
WITH THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER TOOK PLACE IN AN OPEN-
MINDED ATMOSPHERE. MR. GROMYKO EMPHASIZED SEVERAL TIMES
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CONTINUITY OF RELATIONS.

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2. MY GROMYKO ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO DEALING WITH
THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH ARE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE
SOVIET UNION WITH REGARD TO THE CSCE:

3. INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS AND PEACEFUL CHANGE

MR. GROMYKO REVERTED TO THE SOVIET INTERPRETATION THAT THE PEACEFUL CHANGE IMPLIED ONLY SMALLER AGREED CORRECTIONS OF BORDERS; ONE SHOULD NOT TRY TO READ ALL SORTS OF PROBLEMS INTO SUCH A FORMULA. CONCERNING THE PROPOSED US TEXT MR. GROMYKO SAID THAT IT WAS NOT SATISFACTORY FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS.

4. INTERRELATION BETWEEN THE PRINCIPLES

MR. GROMYKO MENTIONED THE SOVIET DIFFICULTIES WITH A FORMULA SAYING THAT ALL PRINCIPLES ARE EQUIVALENT AND ARE TO BE REGARDED AS A WHOLE. MR. GROMYKO PROPOSED A FORMULA ABOUT THE "EQUALLY STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES". THIS PROPOSAL WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE GERMAN SIDE.

5. CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

MR. GROMYKO REPEATED THE SOVIET VIEWS: APPLICATION ONLY IN A BORDER AREA OF APPROX. 50 KM AND ONLY ABOVE THE THRESHOLD OF 40-50,000 MEN. HE POINTED OUT THAT IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF RECONNAISSANCE BY SATELLITE SUCH MEASURES WOULD NOT BE OF PRACTICAL, BUT ONLY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE. FOR THIS IT WOULD SUFFICE TO APPLY THE MEASURES IN A BORDER AREA.

6. BASKET II

MR. GROMYKO STATED THAT THE SOVIET UNION DID NOT HAVE SUCH A GREAT INTEREST IN THE MOST-FAVOURED-NATION-CLAUSE AS TO LET ITSELF PUT UNDER PRESSURE FOR IT. HERR GENSCHER POINTED THAT THE EEC WOULD BE COMPETENT FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS QUESTION IN CASE THE CSCE WOULD AGREE ON PRINCIPLES IN THIS AREA.

7. BASKET III

MR. GROMYKO REPEATED THE SOVIET ARGUMENT FOR THE NECESSITY TO GUARANTEE NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HERR GENSCHER REPLIED THAT WE WERE ASKING FOR ALLEVIATIONS FOR THE BORDER-CROSSING TRAFFIC AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS
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FOR THE PEOPLE, WE WERE NOT LOOKING FOR POSSIBILITIES TO INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES.

8. THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS EMPHASIZED OUR CONTINUED READINESS FOR SMOOTH NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA AND AN EARLY CONCLUSION WITH SATISFACTORY RESULTS. SUCH RESULTS WOULD ALLOW A CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AT THE END OF 1974 OR IN THE SPRING OF 1975.

9. THE BERLIN QUESTION HAD A CONTROL PLACE IN THE TALKS. BOTH THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR AND THE GERMAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS REFERRED IN DETAIL TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS QUESTION FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. IT WAS POINTED OUT,

THAT THERE EXISTED A RELATION BETWEEN DETENTE, THE STATUS OF THE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE SITUATION IN AND AROUND BERLIN. FURTHERMORE, THE GERMAN SIDE UNDERLINED THE NECESSITY TO DEVELOP THE LINKS WITH BERLIN BECAUSE THIS WOULD BE THE ONLY POSSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN THE VIABILITY OF THIS GERMAN TOWN AND TO ANTICIPATE THAT IT WOULD WITHER AWAY. MR. GROMYKO EMPHASIZED THE EQUILIBRIUM OF THE FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT WHICH SHOULD NOT BE UPSET. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT COMMON EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE OPEN QUESTIONS SHOULD BE CONTINUED AND BE INTENSIFIED.

10. MR. GROMYKO SHOWED HIMSELF RELATIVELY OPEN-MINDED IN THE DISCUSSION OF HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS. HE PROMISED A SYMPATHETIC EXAMINATION OF APPLICANTS FOR EXIT VISA IN THE CASE OF FAMILY REUNIONS. THIS PROBLEM WOULD NOT ONLY BE EXAMINED ON A CASE-TO CASE BASIS IN THE SOVIET UNION BUT ALSO GLOBALLY.

11. AS REGARDS TO MBFR NEGOTIATIONS MR. GROMYKO TOOK THE KNOWN LINE; HE DEMANDED TO GIVE UP THE COMMON-CEILING CONCEPT AND THE WESTERN IDEAS ON "BALANCED" REDUCTIONS; AT THE SAME TIME HE ANNOUNCED NEW SOVIET INITIATIVES. THE GERMAN SIDE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE CONSIDER THIS PROBLEM TO BE IMPORTANT. THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST WOULD TURN WITH GREATER INTENSITY TO THE MBFR COMPLEX AFTER THE CSCE.

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